



WICOMICO COUNTY 2001 AGRICULTURAL PROFILE

Located on the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland, Wicomico County has a population of 84,644 residents with approximately 3,750 living in the city of Salisbury. The county is bordered on the west by the Nanticoke River and the Pocomoke River on the east. The Wicomico River leading to Salisbury is a main transportation route for goods distributed throughout the county. These three rivers attract many tourists for fishing, boating, etc.

Wicomico County is the number one agricultural producing county in the State with \$186.3 million coming from agricultural production in 1997. Over 76 million broilers were sold in 1997, making the county number one in the state and tenth in the United States.

Total land area in the county is 241,415 acres. The county has 70,960 acres in crop production. The bulk of this cropland is used for corn and soybean production, much of which goes toward sustaining the broiler industry. Over 2,500 acres of mostly well-drained sandy soil are used for vegetable production, both fresh market and processing.

WICOMICO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Crop	Year	Unit	Acreage Harvested	Average Yield	Total Production
Corn for Grain	1999	Bu.	20,000	84.0	1,680,000
	2000		21,000	167.3	3,513,000
	2001		23,000	162.6	3,740,000
Corn for Silage	1999	Tons.	*	*	*
	2000		*	*	*
	2001		*	*	*
Soybeans	1999	Bu.	25,000	28.1	703,400
	2000		29,500	44.0	1,297,000
	2001		29,600	40.0	1,184,000
Wheat	1999	Bu.	7,200	58.4	420,700
	2000		6,400	56.1	359,300
	2001		5,500	60.0	330,000
Hay	1999	Tons.	2,500	2.6	6,500
	2000		3,200	2.2	7,000
	2001				
Barley	1999	Bu.	*	*	*
	2000		*	*	*
	2001		*	*	*

Crop Production Rank among MD. Counties, 2001				Livestock Inventories Rank among MD. Counties, 1997 ¹	
Corn	9	Oats	3	Cattle	18
Wheat	11	Barley	3	Hogs	8
Hay	15	Soybeans	7	Sheep	16
				Milk Cows	3

WICOMICO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

<i>Farm Numbers & Size</i> ¹	1987	1992	1997
Number of Farms	774	684	580
Average Size (acres)	123	133	156
Land in Farms (acres)	95,542	91,254	90,656

<i>Livestock (Number on Farms)</i> ¹		1987	1992	1997
Cattle Inventory	Jan. 1	1,694	1,526	2,211
Hog Inventory	Dec. 1	15,144	12,208	3,526
Sheep Inventory	Jan. 1	²	225	310

<i>Value of Sales</i> ¹	1987	1992	1997
	<i>----- Thousand Dollars -----</i>		
All Products	134061	164,682	186,294
Crops	14,520	20,654	29,892
Livestock, Poultry and Poultry Products	119,541	144,028	156,402

¹ Source: Census of Agriculture, NASS.
² Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.
³ Unranked - Data not published.
⁴ Revised.
* Acreage too small to publish.

MONTHLY WEATHER DATA - 2001

MONTH	AVERAGE TEMP. (F)	NORMAL 1961-1990	TOTAL RAINFALL (INCHES)	NORMAL 1961-1990
January	36.9	35.9	4.35	3.76
February	43.1	38.1	1.99	3.47
March	51.5	46.7	6.78	4.24
April	56.3	55.1	4.98	3.30
May	68.2	64.7	1.99	3.50
June	75.8	72.8	5.61	3.65
July	74.5	76.9	5.83	4.02
August	75.1	75.9	4.24	4.99
September	68.0	69.7	5.66	3.55
October	57.6	59.1	.15	3.23
November	44.1	50.1	2.05	3.07
December	31.5	40.4	1.60	3.53
Annual	56.9	57.1	45.23	44.31

Number frost free days for 2001	233
Normal frost free days 1961-1990	204
Highest temperature 06-12-00	93
Lowest temperature 12-23-00	12

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Compiled by the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service
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